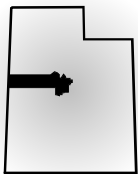


# County Trends



## Juab

June 2003

### A Local Economic Perspective

#### Too good to be true?

That stupendous increase in Juab County's employment base might seem too good to be true. And, while the numbers are correct, they don't indicate a long-term change in the county's labor market.

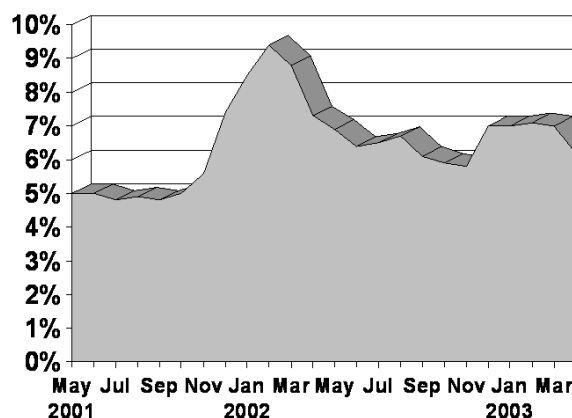
#### ***It Won't Last***

As recently as mid-2002, Juab County was losing employment. Then all of a sudden, year-to-year job growth rates went through the roof. Between December 2001 and December 2002, Juab County nonfarm jobs increased by more than 15 percent.

However, this isn't the bright economic news it may appear at first blush. Almost all of this job gain can be traced to a large, but temporary, increase in positions devoted to building the Kern River pipeline. Since the pipeline was completed in 2003, you can expect these employment numbers to fall just as precipitously as they rose. Of course, even the temporary economic boost is a welcome change for the Juab County labor market.

In the more permanent realm of job growth, expansion is harder to spot. Healthcare/social services made a notable contribution in employment. However, the only other significant increase in positions came from retail trade.

***Seasonally Adjusted Juab County Unemployment Rates***

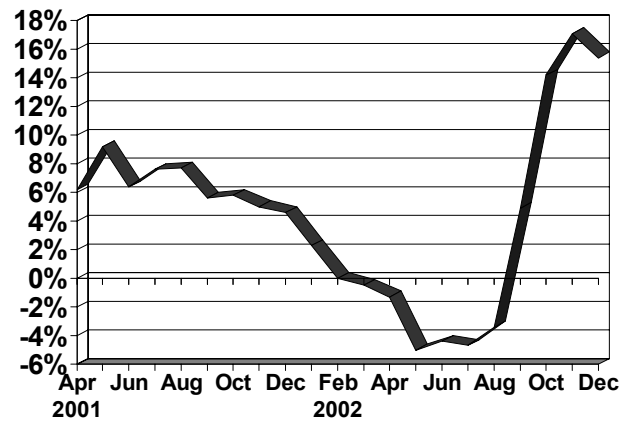


Source: Utah Department of Workforce Services.





## Year-Over Change in Juab County Employment



Source: Utah Department of Workforce Services.

# To the Point

**Despite some pretty amazing increases in its economic indicators, Juab County's economy remains fairly stagnant. Why? Large gains in employment and sales are known to be temporary. But, some new permanent jobs which should boost the county's labor market.**

Unfortunately, job-losing industries proved more common. Manufacturing, food services, and local government showed the largest employment declines.

After Juab County's February 2002 9.4-percent peak in joblessness, the current figures appear tame. Nevertheless, the county's April 2003 rate of 6.2 percent places Juab joblessness above the state (5.3 percent) and national averages (6.0 percent).

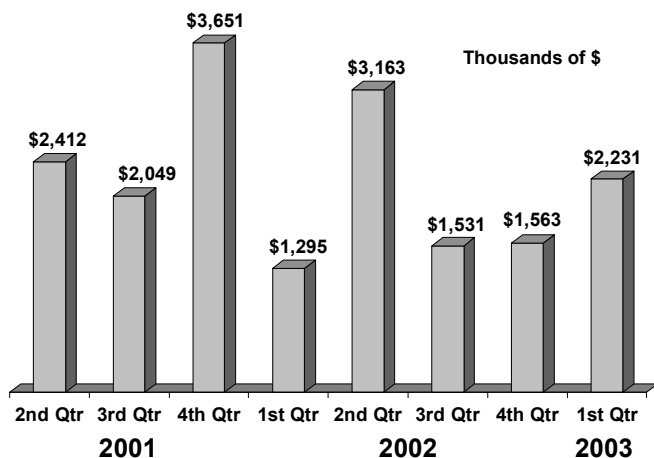
It could be worse. Many Juab County residents commute outside the county for employment. If residents had to rely only on Juab County jobs, the rate of joblessness would undoubtedly register at a higher rate.

## ***Construction Starts with a Bang***

The ever-volatile world of construction permitting made a notable start in 2003. Between the first quarters of 2002 and 2003, the value of construction permits increased by 72 percent. Even more importantly, values were up in every category. The rise didn't amount to much difference in home-building dollars—a mere 5 percent.

But, nonresidential construction approved values (both new and additions/alterations/repairs) more than doubled—primarily on the strength of the permitting of two industrial buildings.

## Total Juab County Approved Construction Values



Source: Utah Bureau of Economic & Business Research.



## What's Up with Sales?

Its not just in employment that some temporary conditions are skewing (and confusing) the data. Juab County's gross taxable sales performance proved truly bizarre with a 200-percent increase during the fourth quarter of 2002. This overwhelming gain can be traced to a huge anomalous increase in miscellaneous retail trade sales. Without, this exorbitant gain, Juab County gross taxable sales were up only 2 percent. On the positive side, services industry sales rose by one-third.

## The Future

With the current irregularities in Juab County's data the "here and now" is difficult to analyze and the future appears even more obscure. The relocation of the rendering plant should prop up employment levels somewhat. However, the sputtering national economy may work to keep growth low.

**Lecia Parks Langston, Regional Economist**  
**lecialangston@utah.gov, 435-688-3115**

# Quick Facts

### April 2003

#### Unemployment Rate

Juab County	6.2%
Utah	5.3%
U.S.	6.0%

### Dec 2002 Change from Previous Year

#### Job Growth

Juab County	15.4%
Utah	0.2%
U.S.	-0.2%

### 1st Qtr 2003 Change from Previous Year

#### Construction Values

Juab County	72.3%
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### 4th Qtr 2002 Change from Previous Year

#### Sales

Juab County	202.6%
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Source: Utah Dept of Workforce Services,  
 Bureau of Labor Statistics,  
 Utah Tax Commission,  
 Bureau of Econ & Business Research.

**For more economic information about Juab County see:**  
**<http://jobs.utah.gov/wi/regions/county.asp>**

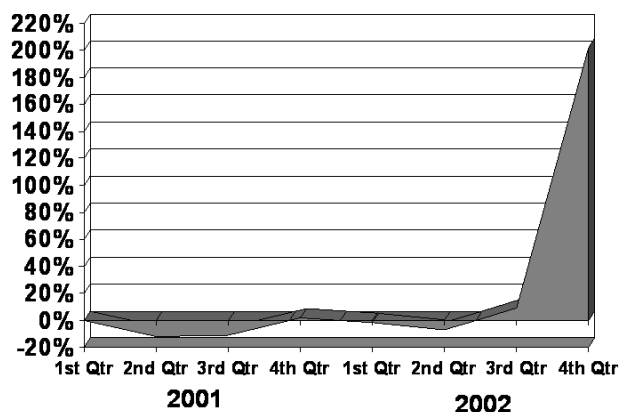
# State of Utah

## Utah Department of Workforce Services

140 East 300 South  
PO Box 45249  
Salt Lake City, UT 84145-0249

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### Year-Over Change in Juab County Gross Taxable Sales



Source: Utah Tax Commission.

*The mission of the Utah Department of Workforce Services is to provide quality, accessible, and comprehensive employment-related and supportive services responsive to the needs of employers, job seekers, and the community.*

## What's Up?

- Nephi may qualify for some low-cost housing for needy families willing to invest sweat equity under the USDA Mutual Self-Help Housing Program. The program was presented at Nephi City Council by several Six County Association of Government employees. The USDA Rural Development provides grant funds to run the program and pay staff salaries to assist in recruiting and determining participant eligibility and by providing mortgage loans for the families. Loans are repaid at 1-percent interest.

**For more economic events, see:**

<http://jobs.utah.gov/wi/Regions/western/juab/juabee.pdf>



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#### Equal Opportunity Employment Program

Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities. Call (801) 526-9240. Individuals with speech and/or hearing impairments may call the state relay at 1-800-346-4128

